

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 14, 33, 34, 54 and 55 as set forth below. For the Examiner's convenience, this Amendment includes the text of all claims under examination, a parenthetical expression for each claim to indicate the status of the claim, and markings to show changes relative to the immediate prior version of each currently amended claim. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-13. (Canceled).

14. (currently amended): A method for the preparation of a curable resin composition characterized in that there is prepared an acrylic resin (i-2) having functional groups which are capable of reacting with ionic species in a curable resin composition ~~according to claim 1~~ under a condition of the absence of a volatile solvent by polymerizing monomers constructing an acrylic resin (i-2) with an epoxy compound (i-1),

said curable resin composition comprising (i-1) an epoxy compound having an ionic polymerizability and viscosity of not more than 1,000 cP at 25°C, (i-2) an acrylic resin having an ionic polymerizable functional group, and (3) a thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst which can be dissolved by heating and crystallized by cooling; said polymerization catalyst having a substituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a nonsubstituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a cyclic organic structure having a more than 10 carbon number hydrocarbon group.

Claims 15-17 (Canceled).

18. (previously presented): A solvent-based coating composition which comprises (ii-1) an epoxy compound having at least two cycloaliphatic epoxy groups in the molecule and a number average molecular weight of not more than 2,000, (ii-2) an acrylic resin containing an epoxy group and having a number average molecular weight of 2,000-50,000, a hydroxyl group value of 10-250 mgKOH/g, and an epoxy equivalent of not more than 300, and (3) a thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst which can dissolve by heating and crystallize by cooling; wherein said epoxy compound (ii-1) is mixed with an additional epoxy selected from the group consisting of bisphenol-type epoxy compound, a novolak-type epoxy compound, and a brominated-type epoxy compound thereof.

19. (previously presented): A solvent-based coating composition according to claim 18, wherein oxirane oxygen concentration is 5-11% by weight in a resin composition composed of said epoxy compound (ii-1) and said acrylic resin (ii-2) containing an epoxy group.

20. (previously presented): A solvent-based coating composition according to claim 19, wherein said thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst (3) can be dissolved by heating and crystallized by cooling; said polymerization catalyst having a substituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a nonsubstituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a cyclic organic structure having a more than 10 carbon number hydrocarbon group,

wherein said thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst (3) contains at least one selected from the group consisting of a cationic polymerization catalyst (3') and a metal compound (3").

21. (previously presented): A coating for cars, comprising: a solvent-based coating composition comprising (ii-1) an epoxy compound having at least two cycloaliphatic epoxy groups in the molecule and a number average molecular weight of not more than 2,000, (ii-2) an acrylic resin containing an epoxy group and having a number average molecular weight of 2,000-50,000, a hydroxyl group value of 10-250 mgKOH/g, and an epoxy equivalent of not more than 300, and (3) a thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst which can dissolve by heating and crystallize by cooling; wherein said epoxy compound (ii-1) is mixed with an additional epoxy selected from the group consisting of bisphenol-type epoxy compound, a novolak-type epoxy compound, and a brominated-type epoxy compound thereof.

22. (previously presented): A coated article comprising a substrate and a coating on said substrate, wherein said coating is formed from curing the curable resin composition set forth in claim 18 .

Claims 23-32 (canceled).

33. (currently amended): A color filter comprising using a protecting layer for a color filter as claimed in claim 32:

a protecting layer comprising a coating formed from curing a curable resin composition which comprises (iv-1) an epoxy resin having ionic polymerizability and (3) a thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst which can dissolve by heating and crystallize by cooling; said polymerization catalyst having a substituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a nonsubstituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a cyclic organic structure having a more than 10 carbon number hydrocarbon group, wherein said protecting layer is deposited on a substrate.

34. (currently amended): A liquid crystal display device comprising using a protecting layer for a color filter as claimed in claim 32;

a protecting layer for a color filter comprising a coating formed from curing a curable resin composition which comprises (iv-1) an epoxy resin having ionic polymerizability and (3) a thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst which can dissolve by heating and crystallize by cooling; said polymerization catalyst having a substituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a nonsubstituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a cyclic organic structure having a more than 10 carbon number hydrocarbon group, wherein said protecting layer is deposited on a substrate.

Claims 35-37 (canceled).

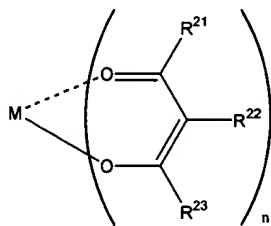
38. (previously presented): A curable resin composition comprising: (v-1) an epoxy compound having ionic polymerizability and a viscosity of not more than 1,000 cP at 25°C, (v-4) an oxetane compound having 1-6 oxetane rings per molecule, and (3) a thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst which can dissolve by heating and crystallize by cooling; said polymerization catalyst having a substituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a nonsubstituted hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of more than 10, or a cyclic organic structure having a more than 10 carbon number hydrocarbon group, wherein said epoxy compound (v-1) is mixed with an additional epoxy selected from the group consisting of a bisphenol-type epoxy compound, a novolak-type epoxy compound, and a brominated-type epoxy compound thereof.

Claims 39-42 (canceled).

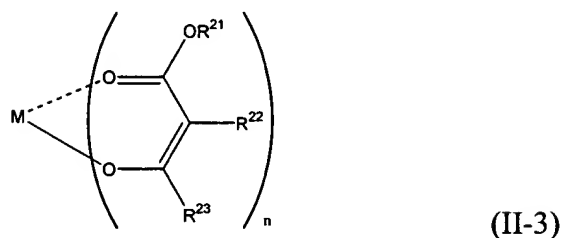
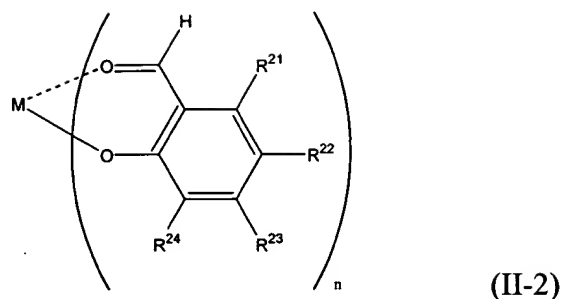
43. (previously presented): A solvent-based coating composition which comprises (ii-1) an epoxy compound having at least two cycloaliphatic epoxy groups in the molecule and a number average molecular weight of not more than 2,000, (ii-2) an acrylic resin containing an epoxy group and having a number average molecular weight of 2,000-50,000, a hydroxyl group value of 10-250 mgKOH/g, and an epoxy equivalent of not more than 300, and (3) a thermally-activating ionic polymerization catalyst which can dissolve by heating and crystallize by cooling; wherein said epoxy group in said acrylic resin (ii-2) containing an epoxy group is a cycloaliphatic epoxy group or an epoxy group derived from glycidylmethacrylate and wherein said epoxy compound (ii-1) is mixed with an additional epoxy selected from the group consisting of a bisphenol-type epoxy compound, a novolak-type epoxy compound, and a brominated-type epoxy compound thereof.

Claims 44-53 (Canceled).

54. (currently amended): ~~A curable resin composition~~ A solvent-based coating composition according to claim 20, wherein said metal compound (3") is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of a compound represented by general formula (II-1), a compound represented by general formula (II-2), and a compound represented by general formula (II-3):



(II-1)

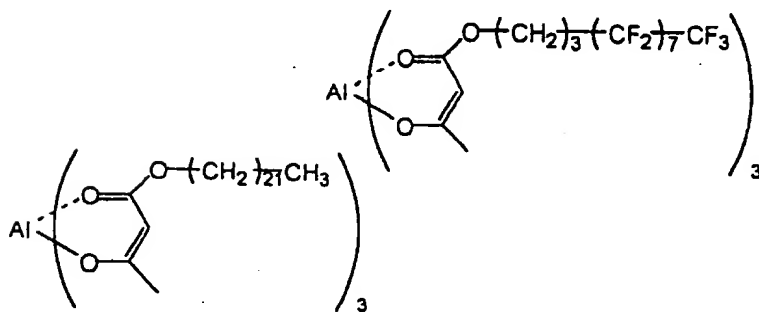
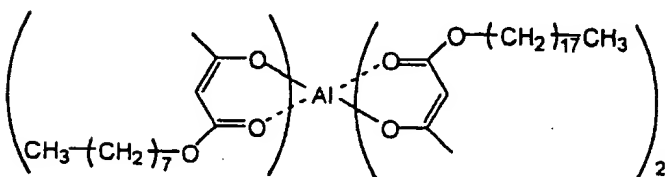
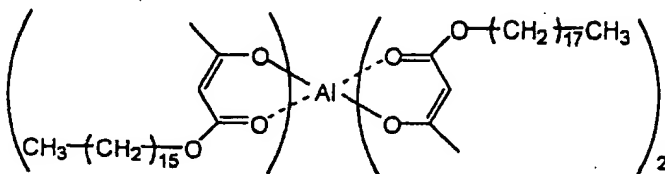
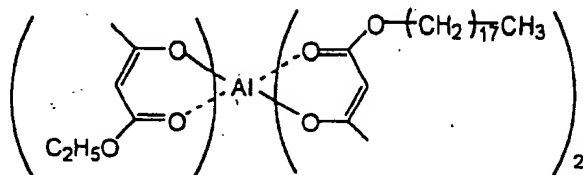


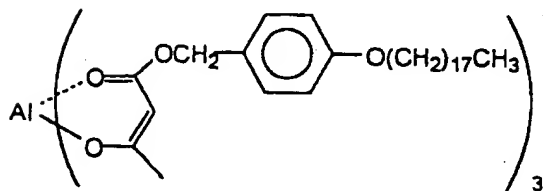
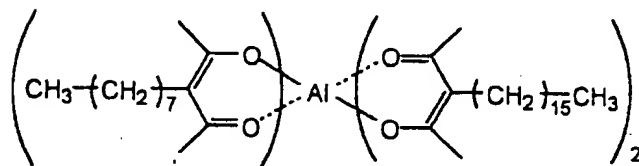
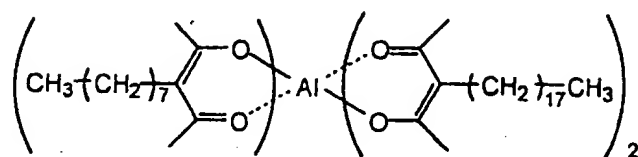
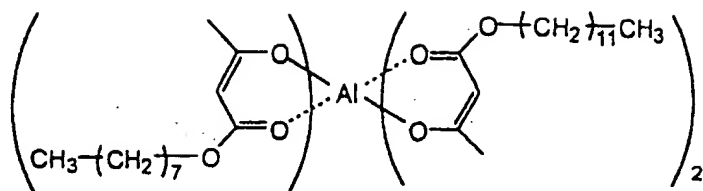
(in the general formula, R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , and R^{24} may be identical to or different from each other, and which are a hydrogen atom, a substituted or nonsubstituted hydrocarbon group of a carbon number of 1-30, respectively, provided that there are contained at least one of R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , and R^{24} having a carbon number of not less than 10 in one ligand; M is Al; “n” is 3), and

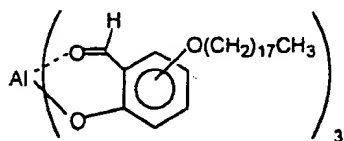
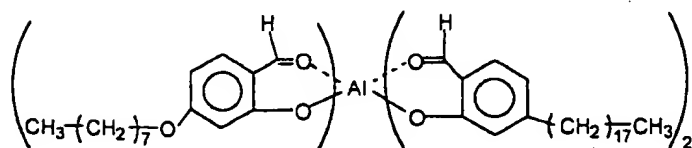
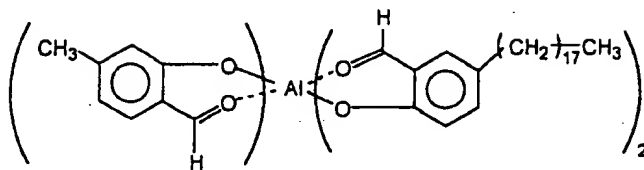
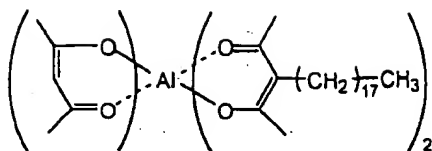
at least one compound selected from the group consisting of organosilane having an aryl group bonded directly to a silicon atom and having a hydroxyl group or a hydrolyzable group bonded directly to a silicon atom, a phenol compound, an organosilicon compound compound having a hydrolyzable group bonded directly to a silicon atom, and a silicon compound capable of generating silanol upon irradiation of light.

55. (currently amended): ~~A curable resin composition~~ A solvent-based coating composition according to claim 54, wherein said compound represented by the formulas (II-1), (II-2) and (II-3) is selected from the group consisting of tris(octadecylacetoacetate) aluminum, tris(hexadecylacetoacetate) aluminum, tris(tetradecylacetoacetate) aluminum, tris(dodecylacetoacetate) aluminum, tris(octylsalicylaldehyde) aluminum, tris(3-

octadecylacetlyacetate) aluminum, and compounds represented by the following chemical formulas:







Claims 56-57 (canceled).